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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

In re application of: RAMIREZ et al.

Attorney Docket No.: FAS-003-US

Application No.: 10/758,845

Examiner: KNOX, Stewart

Filed: January 16, 2004

Group: 3641

Title: GUN CHAMBER

Confirmation No.: 6940

FILED VIA EFS**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.132**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DATE: August 14, 2008

Dear Sir:

I, Hershel Davis, hereby declare as follows:

I. I am the Corporate Master Chief (CMC) of Blackwater Inc., reporting directly to the President. Prior to Blackwater, I served 34 years in the United States Navy SEALs as the Command Master Chief of the US Navy's Special Warfare Unit Eight and SEAL Team Five. At the time of my retirement I was the highest ranking enlisted man in the Navy. During my career as a U.S. Navy SEAL, I had the opportunity to work with virtually every weapons system utilized by the U.S. special operations community including 50 caliber BMG platforms. My civilian experience has included the training of hundreds of law enforcement and military personnel in weapons and

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tactics. In addition, I have been engaged by a large number of organizations as a security consultant, including the US Olympic Committee.

2. I am a recognized expert in the field of weapons training and tactics, with extensive experience and training in firearms and their effects ranging from small arms to strategic weapons.

3. From personal experience in the Navy SEALs, I strongly believe that there is an immediate and strong need for 50 caliber weapons and ammunition that exhibits significantly reduced overall length and weight, reduced recoil, low muzzle flash, reduced round weight, and increased efficiency. I am convinced that such weapons would aid military operations, significantly reduce logistical costs in manufacturing and delivery to a warzone, and ultimately save the lives of our troops. I believe that this need is longstanding given the historic and ongoing use of 50 caliber weapons. However, despite this long felt need, I believe that no weapon system has been produced that has the greatly improved combination of efficiency and compactness with significant logistical savings that is granted by the lightweight 50 caliber cartridge and weapon system (hereinafter "HALO50") provided by the present invention.

4. I have personally fired the HALO50 weapon chambered for the lightweight 50 caliber cartridge and current 50 caliber BMG projectiles. The felt recoil was much less than that of any previous 50 BMG weapons that I have fired of greater weight and dimension.

5. Based on personal knowledge, I believe that there has been ample expenditure of financing and research in such weapons design by the Department of Defense (DOD) of the United States Government. However, despite these resources, no one has produced a lightweight 50 caliber gun chamber which fires the standard mil-spec 50 caliber BMG projectiles with the desired efficiency and capable of being adapted to multiple weapons systems for a wide range of applications. My belief is based on many years of personal experience deployed in past and present theatres of operations ranging from the jungles of Vietnam to the open deserts and vast mountain ranges of Iraq and Afghanistan, especially with respect to effective long-range shoulder-mounted anti-personnel

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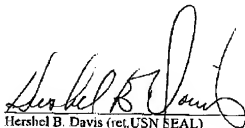
and anti-material weapons. To achieve this, a lightweight weapon system must incorporate a lightweight chamber designed to fire a lightweight cartridge with the mil-spec 50 caliber BMG projectiles as demonstrated to me in the HALO50 chamber/cartridge design.

6. Additionally, given the urgent need of and interest expressed by military branches and law enforcement agencies for compact and efficient large caliber weapon systems, there has been strong interest in commercializing firearms and ammunition utilizing the disclosed lightweight and highly adaptable HALO50 gun chamber, thereby ensuring its eminent commercial success because of the high potential cost savings in design, manufacturing and significant cost reductions in handling, storage, re-supply, and shipping.

7. I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, all statements made herein on information and belief are believed to be true, and all statements made herein are made with the knowledge that whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of the Patent and Trademark Office, knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact, or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations, or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry, shall be subject to the penalties including fine or imprisonment or both as set forth under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that violations of this paragraph may jeopardize the validity of the application or this document, or the validity or enforceability of any patent, trademark registration, or certificate resulting therefrom.

Respectfully Submitted,

14 August 2008
Dated


Hershel B. Davis (ret. USN SEAL)

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